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# CITY OF ROCHESTER



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

of the

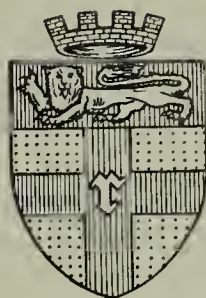
City and Port of Rochester

1957



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# CITY OF ROCHESTER



## ANNUAL REPORT

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Medical Officer of Health

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City and Port of Rochester

1957



# CITY OF ROCHESTER



## ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health FOR THE YEAR 1957

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# MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND PORT HEALTH COMMITTEES 1957/58

*Chairman* - Councillor G.A. Tickner, J.P.  
*Vice-Chairman* - Councillor R.C.J. Shave  
*The Mayor* - Councillor G.A. Tickner, J.P.  
*The Deputy Mayor* - Councillor W. Wilkinson, J.P.

Alderman A.C. Lyle  
Alderman E. Washford, J.P.  
Alderman C.S. Knight, J.P.  
Alderman A.A.J. Anderson  
Alderman F.C. Burton, J.P.  
Alderman H.R. Swain  
Alderman C.H.R. Skipper, J.P., C.C.

Councillor J.D. May  
Councillor H. Wilson, J.P.  
Councillor G.E. Washford  
Councillor F. Corry  
Councillor L. Shuter  
Councillor I.J. Phillips, J.P.  
Councillor J. Green  
Councillor G.A. Page  
Councillor L.A.M. Owen  
Councillor C.W. Frid  
Councillor G.T. Cheeseman  
Councillor Mrs. H. Gee  
Councillor E.M. Griffin  
Councillor J. Hammond  
Councillor S. Fry  
Councillor H.T. Leech  
Councillor A.M. Dawson  
Councillor R.A.G. Marsh



## STAFF

### *Medical Officer of Health*

J.O. MURRAY, M.D., (Edin.Univ.), Ch.B. (Edin.Univ.),  
D.P.H. (Liverpool Univ.).

Joint Appointment, Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Chatham

### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health*

R.G. BRENNEN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Joint Appointment, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Chatham

### *Chief Public Health Inspector*

#\*E.W. BARTON, F.A.P.H.I..

### *Public Health Inspectors*

#\*R.S. LANE

#\*S. PRATT

#\*R. STAPLES (Resigned 30.4.1957)

#\*R.W. GWYER (Appointed 1.9.1957)

### *Port Health Inspector*

#\*C.H.N. EVANS

### *Student Public Health Inspector*

J.D. BUTTON (Qualified 5.12.1957)

### *Veterinary Surgeon (Part-time)*

D.G. LEWIS, M.R.C.V.S.

### *Chief Clerk*

Miss V.F.M JENKINS, A.C.C.S..

### *Clerks*

Mrs. J. SAYERS

Mrs. M. BARTON (Resigned 31.8.1957)

Miss M.D.E. VELLA

MISS M.A. SMITH

Miss S. BROWN (Appointed 1.11.1957)

# Sanitary Inspector's Certificate (S.I.E.J.B. or R.S.H)

° Meat & Food Inspector's Certificate of the R.S.H.

ø Associate of the Institute of Naval Architects



September, 1958.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.

YOUR WORSHIP, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1957.

**1. PERINATAL MORTALITY (Rates per 1,000 Live and Still Births).**

This is the sum of stillbirths and deaths of infants within one week from birth and is associated with adverse factors affecting the child before and during birth. In the past 20 years the Mortality Rate of this group has fallen from 55 in the period 1933-1937 to 28 in the period 1953-1957. This is a reduction by half but it has not fallen to the same extent as in babies who have survived the first week of life over which age there has been a fall of over 75 per cent in the death rate to which must be attributed the striking reduction in infant deaths, as a whole, in recent years. (See page 2).

In the period 1933-1937 infants deaths (128) exceeded stillbirths (103) whereas the number of stillbirths (73) exceeding the total infant deaths under one year (67) in the 1953-1957 quinquennium. The Stillbirth Rate for the two periods in question are, respectively, 39 and 19.

The combined Stillbirth and Infant Mortality Rate has fallen from 87 in the years 1933-1937 to 36 in the years 1953-1957. In 1957 it was 30.1.

**2. DEATHS IN INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR IN THE PERIOD 1953-1957.**

Reviewing the position during the past five years it was found that of the total 67 Infant Deaths forty were associated with Prematurity (19) or Congenital Deformity (21) the problems of which have not yet been solved. Eleven deaths were due to Respiratory Disease. Twenty-four of the total fatalities occurred within 24 hours of birth and another 13 survived less than one week. Of the 37 deaths within one week, 18 were attributed to Prematurity and 12 to Congenital Deformity.

Of the total Infant Deaths 75 per cent were due to Congenital Deformity (31%), Prematurity (28%) and Respiratory Disease (16%). The crux of the matter lies in a greater reduction in deaths from these three causes.

Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Live Births for the past ten years are shown on page 2. The Rate was 17.2 in 1957 (compared with 11.4 in 1956) which was the lowest on record. The 1957 figure for England and Wales was 23.0.

**3. BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 PERSONS LIVING 1957. (Total live births 814, Still Births 15).**

The Birth Rate was 17.3. This is the highest rate since 1949 when it was 18.16. (See page 2).

**DEATH RATE PER 1,000 PERSONS LIVING 1957. (Total Deaths all causes 457).**

The Death Rate at 10.47 was practically the same as for the two preceding years. 52 per cent of the total deaths were due to disease of the Heart and Blood Vessels. 17 per cent to Cancer and 8 per cent to Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other Lung disease. Of the Cancer deaths approximately one quarter were due to Cancer of the Lung (see page 7).

**4. Infectious Disease (see page 5).**

*Measles.* There was an epidemic of Measles in the first half of the year reaching its peak in March. The total number of notified cases was 1,015 of which 358 occurred in March. There was one death.

Whooping Cough was prevalent during the first three quarters of the year. The total number of cases was 122 of which 49 were notified in the second quarter.

*Poliomyelitis.* Five cases were notified of which four were paralytic; all 5 cases were notified in the third quarter of the year.

*Pneumonia.* There were 48 cases of which 20 died. Half the notified cases were over 45 years of age.

*Tuberculosis.* The following table indicates that there has been a rapid fall in mortality from Tuberculosis in recent years, largely due to modern methods of treatment which also have the effect of eliminating infection from patients more speedily and thus diminishing the risk to infect others.

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATION AND DEATH RATES PER 100,000  
PERSONS LIVING

	1934-1938	1946-1950	1951-1955	1956	1957
Notification Rate	101	128	115	76	55
Death Rate	68	53	22	6	8

There is little doubt that the incidence and mortality can be reduced to negligible proportions by periodic Mass Radiography of the community which would ensure early detection of the disease, early treatment and consequent cure and elimination of infection.

From the beginning of June, 1959 Mass Radiography will be available in the Medway Towns for several weeks when it is hoped every member of the community will take the opportunity to be X-rayed. By doing so each individual will not only be acting in their own interests but will be playing their part in eradicating this disease.

## 5. POPULATION AND HOUSING.

The population in 1957 as estimated by the Registrar General was 46,840, an increase of 2,941 persons since the census of 1951. Seventy-five per cent of this is attributable to the natural increase in population (i.e., the excess of births over deaths).

Approximately ten per cent of the population is over the age of 64 years and 3 per cent are seventy-five years or over. There is still a lack of small houses suitable for the needs of elderly single persons and married couples. The Last Census showed that nearly ten per cent of the total households consisted of 1 person.

At the end of 1957 there were 14,584 inhabited houses in the City and of this number 3,820 were owned by the Corporation.

Three hundred and fifty-three unfit houses have been closed or demolished since 1952. Of this number 231 were in clearance areas. The number demolished in 1957 was 62.

## 6. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION FROM 1952 TO 1957.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

AVERAGE ANNUAL FIGURES OF THE RECORDING GAUGES AT STROOD CEMETERY,  
FORT PITT SCHOOL AND ALL SAINTS' HOSPITAL (FIGURES IN TONS PER  
SQUARE MILE)

	1952-1954	1955-1956	1957
(Total Solids	183	268	192
(Tar & Other Combustible			
(Material	25	39	29
(Ash	64	94	62
(Calcium	22	32	20
(Sulphates	36	46	37

The records of atmospheric pollution for 1957 show a welcome improvement on those of 1955 and 1956 but do not give any grounds for complacency. These two years in comparison with the three years 1952-1954 had shown a rise in pollution from Tarry and Other Combustible Material (chief source domestic coal fires) and also from calcium and ash (chief source undustrial furnaces and Kilns) varying from 45-56 per cent. There was also an increase in sulphur deposits of 27 per cent.

The pollution from Tarry and Other Combustible Material though much less than in 1955 and 1956 is still greater than in the period 1952 to 1954. The other forms of pollution mentioned above have decreased to or near to the 1952-1954 levels and ash and calcium pollution is actually slightly less, the latter, in all probability, due to the closure of one of the local cement factories in 1957.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AT THE RECORDING STATIONS  
STROOD CEMETERY, FORT PITT SCHOOL AND ALL SAINTS' HOSPITAL  
(AVERAGE ANNUAL FIGURES IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE)  
1952 TO 1957

SITE	TOTAL SOLIDS	TARRY AND OTHER COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL	CALCIUM	SULPHATES	ASH
Strood Cemetery	239	27	30	47	86
All Saints' Hospital	185	33	19	32	63
Fort Pitt School	215	29	24	40	73

Pollution over the past six years has been heaviest in the Strood area with an average annual deposit of 239 tons of solids per square mile compared with 215 at Fort Pitt School and 185 at All Saints' Hospital. The recording gauge in Strood, however, is situated much nearer to the industrial area which includes cement works as well as industrial furnaces. Consequently there are larger deposits of ash, calcium and sulphur but smaller amounts of tarry and other combustible material, the latter emanating mainly from domestic coal fires.

All Saints' Hospital is situated farthest away from the industrial area and is in a built up residential area. The records here show the highest figure for tarry and combustible material and the lowest readings for ash, calcium and sulphur.

The scientific evidence on the effects of air pollution is incomplete but there is evidence to show that pollution is conducive to disease and under certain circumstances (e.g. fog) can be a causitive factor in death of persons suffering from heart and lung disease.

#### SMOKELESS ZONES.

The proposal to establish smokeless zones in the Medway Towns is still under consideration.

### 7. HOUSEBOATS IN THE PORT OF ROCHESTER.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEBOATS IN THE PORT.

There are a number of houseboats on the Medway which are distributed, so far as the land approach to the berths is concerned, amongst several districts i.e. Rochester, Strood Rural, Chatham, Gillingham, Swale Rural and West Malling.

#### BERTHS.

Some of these craft are lying on the foreshore and approached through premises owned or rented by Cruising Clubs, or on boatyard premises which make a business of lettings, moorings and berths to yachts and pleasure craft generally, while others lie either singly or in small groups at wharves, the owners of which charge a rent.

There are others which berth on a foreshore or at a wharf at the favour of the owner of the land.

#### TYPES OF HOUSEBOAT.

The existing houseboats include all sorts of craft. Some are well found sea-



There are a few rather primitive conversions which tend to lie at spots where they are not likely to incur any expense.

SITUATION OF HOUSEBOATS WITHIN LOCAL AUTHORITY BOUNDARIES, APRIL, 1957.

Within	<u>Rochester Boundaries:</u>	<u>Total 28</u>	
	Strood Yacht Club	6	
	Medway Yacht Basin	6	
	Temple Boatyard	5	
	Pelican Boatyard	3	
	County Yachts	4	
	Strood )	)	
	Rochester)	4 )	
		)	Situated between Rochester Bridge and
"	<u>Chatham Boundaries:</u>	)	Chatham Pier which is the principal
		)	shipping area.
	Chatham	<u>Total 4</u> )	
Within	<u>Strood R.D. Boundaries:</u>	<u>Total 27</u>	
	Whitewall Creek	6	
	Upnor	6	
	Marina Club, Hoo	11	
	Cuxton	4	
"	<u>Gillingham Boundaries:</u>	<u>Total 8</u>	
	Otterham Creek	8	
	Total Port of Rochester 67		

NOTE.

NOTE. Rochester Port Health District extends from Hawkwood (near Snodland) to Colemouth Creek (near Grain) and embraces the River Medway and Creeks up to high water mark. The land above high water mark is in the district of the urban or rural authority at that particular point.

## 8. CONCLUSION.

I am pleased to record my appreciation of the valuable assistance and co-operation I have had from all members of the staff and from my colleagues in other departments who have also supplied me with data for this report.

It is also fitting that I should express my thanks to my colleagues in general practice and on hospital staffs. With them I have enjoyed the most cordial relationships and most useful collaboration which I feel has been to our mutual advantage in fostering the welfare of individual patients and the community.

In conclusion, to the Chairman and Members of the Committee I make my grateful acknowledgement for their continued help and guidance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

**J. O. MURRAY,**

Medical Officer of Health.

# A. STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) Land and Inland Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,378
Population - Census 1951, 43,899								
Estimated R.G. (Mid. 1957)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46,840
Number of houses inhabited (end 1957) according to the Rate Books	...							14,584
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£576,791
Sum representing a penny rate...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,313
Number of houses (including flats) built during 1957 - Corporation	144							
Private Enterprise	151							295
TOTAL BIRTHS (Live and Still)								
Live Births	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	TOTAL	M.	F.
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	782	398	384)
		...	...	...	...	32	12	20)
Still Births	Legitimate...	...	...	...	...	14	7	7)
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	-	1)
Birth Rate per 1,000 persons living	...	...				17.3		
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Births (live & still)	...	...				18.09		
TOTAL DEATHS - All causes at all ages	...	...	...			457		
Death Rate per 1,000 persons living	...	...				9.7		
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...		-		
Natural increase in population (excess Births over Deaths)	...	...	...	...				357

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

Total Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.2
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Diarrhoea (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

The registrar General's Table of Causes of Deaths is shown on page 12.

The following Table shows a comparison between this district and England and Wales.

	LIVE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 RESIDENT POPULATION	DEATHS PER 1,000 POPULATION	DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR PER 1,000 REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS
England and Wales	16.1	11.5	23.0
ROCHESTER...	*16.95	*10.47	17.2

(\* Crude Rate adjusted for comparability purposes).

# PRINCIPAL CERTIFIABLE CAUSES OF DEATH

		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS
Diseases of the Circulatory system including Heart Disease and Cerebral Haemorrhage	240	52.5
Cancer	80	17.5
Respiratory Diseases:-		
Pneumonia (all forms)	20)	
Bronchitis	16)	8.0
Others	1)	
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4	0.87
Deaths from all causes	457	

## INFANTILE MORTALITY - BIRTH AND STILL BIRTH RATE

Deaths of children under 1 year of age per 1,000 births, and births per 1,000 persons living:-

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Infant Mortality Rate	27.6	32.2	35.06	40.1	24.4	21.4	20.18	18.00	11.4	17.2
Birth Rate	20.8	18.16	15.2	16.54	15.62	17.65	16.47	15.87	15.1	17.3
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births (Live and Still)	22.0	23.0	19.4	28.2	23.8	17.3	26.2	16.3	16.8	18.09

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

CAUSE	NEO-NATAL DEATHS						DEATHS OVER 4 WEEKS				
	UNDER 24 HOURS	UNDER 1 WEEK	1-2 WEEKS	2-3 WEEKS	3-4 WEEKS	TOTAL UNDER 4 WEEKS	1-3 MONTHS	3-6 MONTHS	6-9 MONTHS	9-12 MONTHS	TOTAL UNDER 1 YEAR
Premature Birth	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	3
Injury at Birth	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	3
Marasmus, Inanition	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	4
Congenital Deformity	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bronchitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gastro-enteritis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Causes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	8	2	-	1	-	11	2	1	-	-	14

## CHILD MORTALITY

	1955	1956	1957
Number of deaths of children aged 1 to 5 years	1	3	3

3.

# NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Total Deaths under 1 month of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	(1956-6)
Death Rate of children under 1 month of age per 1,000 births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.5	(1956-8.57)

## DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS IN WARDS

St. Margaret	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
St. Peter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Troy Town	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
St. Nicholas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Strood	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Temple	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Frindsbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80

## B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### 1. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

There are 24 doctors resident in the area (excluding St. Bartholomew's Hospital) who are engaged in private practice.

### 2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following Table shows the specimens submitted by this Authority to the Public Health Service Laboratory, Maidstone, for examination.

		POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	TOTAL
Swabs	Diphtheria Bacilli and Haemolytic Streptococci Staphylococci	...	...	...
Blood	...	...	...	...
Faeces	? Dysentery, Typhoid Group, Food Poisoning, etc.	5	13	18
Food Stuffs	Food Poisoning	1	2	3
Ice Cream	...	...	...	73
Milk Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	...	178
Water Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	...	50
Swimming Bath and River Water Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	...	28

### 3. AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Headquarters, Watling Street, Chatham. Telephone Gillingham 59595.

### 4. NURSING IN THE HOME

In addition to the nursing services provided by the Kent County Council, nursing in the home is provided by the Watts's District Nursing Service. The Almshouses, Maidstone, Road, Rochester (Telephone Chatham 42335).

The number of patients visited during the year by Watt's Nurses was 36 and the total number of visits 6,400.



## 5. MIDWIFERY SERVICE

There are six County midwives and one independent midwife serving the Rochester area.

## 6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

District Office, 13 Gun Lane, Strood. Telephone Strood 7451.

## 7. HOSPITALS

St. William's Hospital, Telephone Chatham 43243.  
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Telephone Chatham 41511.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CLINIC	SITUATION	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Ante Natal	Strood Institution on Thursday mornings, 'Elm) House, New Road Avenue, Chatham. 2nd and) 4th Tuesday mornings. )	
Infant Welfare	St. Stephen's Hall, Wallace Road, Rochester) on Friday afternoons. ) Strood Institution on Tuesday afternoons and) Friday mornings. ) Belsey Hall, Rochester, on Tuesday afternoons. ) Borstal Village Hall, Wednesday afternoons. )	Kent County Council
Diphtheria Immunisa- tion and Vaccina- tion.	At Infant Welfare Clinics. ) ) ) ) )	
Poliomyelitis Vac- cination.	By Arrangement. ) ) ) ) )	
Chest Clinic.	13 New Road, Rochester. ) ) )	
Venereal Diseases.	36 New Road, Rochester. ) ) )	
Orthopaedic; Radium and X-Ray; Ultra Violet Light; Ear, Nose and Throat; Ophthalmic; Skin Diseases; Paedia- trics.	St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester. ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )	South East Metro- politan Regional Hospital Board

## NURSING HOMES

## REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

There is one registered nursing home with seven maternity beds and fifteen beds for general cases. The Home is visited regularly by the Medical Officer of Health.

The number of maternity cases admitted during the year was 100 of which 47 were Rochester residents. The number of general cases was 56 of which 15 were Rochester residents.

# C. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) 1957

	TOTAL	NUMBER OF CASES IN AGE GROUPS					AGE UNKNOWN	TOTAL NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY		NO. REMOVED TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
		0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65+		SOUTH	NORTH		
Scarlet Fever ...	14	5	9	1	—	—	—	7	7	2	—
Pneumonia... ..	48	2	7	15	18	6	—	19	29	2	20
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Whooping Cough...	122	62	58	1	—	—	1	65	57	—	—
Measles ... ..	1,015	487	515	5	—	—	8	571	444	5	1
Erysipelas ...	7	—	—	2	1	4	—	5	2	—	—
Dysentery... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Encephalitis (Post Infectious)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis	5*	1	3	1	—	—	—	3	2	5	—
Food Poisoning...	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Total ...	1,214	560	592	26	19	10	9	673	543	16	21

\* including one non-paralytic case.

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DIVIDED INTO WARDS

	FRINDS-BURY	TROY TOWN	ST. PETER	ST. MARGARET	ST. NICHOLAS	STROOD	TEMPLE
Scarlet Fever... ..	2	2	1	2	2	1	4
Pneumonia ... ..	6	3	4	11	—	4	20
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	22	11	21	29	6	17	16
Measles ... ..	138	56	320	165	36	83	217
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	1	3	1	—	2
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis (Post Infectious)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	3	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total ...	170	72	351	212	45	105	261

Admissions to the Isolation Block at

ST. WILLIAM'S HOSPITAL

Table showing Number and Types of Admissions from Rochester

Meningococcal Meningitis...	1
Scarlet Fever...	2
Measles ... ..	5
Mumps ... ..	1
Chickenpox ... ..	2
Ac. Poliomyelitis ... ..	2

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year the following cases have been protected against Diphtheria:-

Under 5 years	...	...	422
5 - 14 years	...	...	49
Reinforcing dose	...	...	335

NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 15 YEARS ON 31.12.57 WHO HAD COMPLETED A COURSE OF IMMUNISATION AT ANY TIME BEFORE THAT DATE

YEAR OF BIRTH	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1953-1957	99	66	54	189	353	411	418	340	339	428	508	459	404	336	52	4456
1952 or earlier	295	367	356	303	264	209	240	184	195	26	-	-	-	-	-	2439

## VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following cases were vaccinated against smallpox during 1957:-

Age at 31.12.57	...	...	...	Under 1 year	1-4	5-14	15+	Total
Number vaccinated...	...	...	...	216	154	33	29	432
Number re-vaccinated	...	...	...	-	1	10	29	40

## VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

The number of children born during the period 1947-1957 who received a course of two injections during 1957 ... .. 1,265

## SCABIES TREATMENT

The number of cases treated in the last five years are as follows:-

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
-	13	3	-	18

## BUG INFESTATION

20 infested houses were dealt with during the year.

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT

	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Total number of rats destroyed	534	496	831	598	745	994	1373	702
"    "    " mice	196	123	107	352	141	205	186	372

## CANCER

YEAR	DEATHS 1948 - 1957			DEATH RATE PER 1,000 PERSONS LIVING
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	
1948	38	21	59	1.4
1949	36	46	82	1.9
1950	51	32	83	1.9
1951	54	29	83	1.9
1952	54	38	92	2.06
1953	43	35	78	1.78
1954	46	34	80	1.77
1955	44	44	88	1.93
1956	51	31	82	1.77
1957	47	33	80	1.70

## CANCER MORTALITY ACCORDING TO AGE AND SITE

SITE	1 - 5		5 - 15		15 - 25		25 - 45		45 - 65		65+		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Stomach ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	3	8	5
Lung, Bronchus ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	8	1	8	1	17	2
Breast... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	4
Uterus... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	3
Other ... ..	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	9	6	12	9	23	18

## TUBERCULOSIS

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1957

AGE	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1 ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 ... ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15 ... ..	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20 ... ..	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
20 - 25 ... ..	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 ... ..	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 ... ..	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 ... ..	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
55 - 65 ... ..	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+ ... ..	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total ... ..	21	4	-	1	4*	-	-	-

NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATHS WERE DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS:-

	SOUTH		NORTH		TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	1		3*		4
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis... ..	-		-		-

	PULMONARY T.B.		NON-PULMONARY T.B.	
	NOTIFIED	DIED	NOTIFIED	DIED
Average for the preceding 5 years ... ..	38	6	5	0.6
1957 ... ..	25	*4	1	-

\*Plus 1 T.B. patient who died from other causes.



The following information has been kindly supplied by Dr. S. Roy C. Price, Chest Physician for this District:-

Particulars of the patients from the Rochester District who were dealt with at the Rochester Chest Clinic during 1957

NEW PATIENTS	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		TOTALS	
	ADULTS	CHILDREN	ADULTS	CHILDREN	ADULTS	CHILDREN
Defined T.B. ....	M. F. 15 5	M. F. 1 1	M. F. - 1	M. F. - -	M. F. 15 6	M. F. 1 1
Defined Non-T.B. ....					665	

Total attendances 1,434

Number of patients admitted to Institutions

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS, DEATHS AND DEATH RATES 1948 - 1957

YEAR	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS			NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS		
	NOTIFICATIONS	DEATHS	DEATH RATE	NOTIFICATIONS	DEATHS	DEATH RATE
1948	27	16	0.38	10	3	0.07
1949	56	30	0.7	10	4	0.09
1950	40	8	0.19	10	1	0.02
1951	63	17	0.39	10	3	0.068
1952	47	9	0.20	8	1	0.022
1953	56	7	0.15	6	-	-
1954	30	7	0.15	5	-	-
1955	29	6	0.13	3	1	0.02
1956	31	2	0.043	4	1	0.02
1957	25	4*	0.085	1	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

YEAR	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS			NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS		
	NO. ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER	DEATHS DURING YEAR	DEATHS % OF NUMBER ON REGISTER	NO. ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER	DEATHS DURING YEAR	DEATHS % OF NUMBER ON REGISTER
1947	223	21	9.41	60	2	3.3
1948	227	16	7.04	66	3	4.54
1949	238	30	12.6	65	4	6.15
1950	259	8	3.08	68	1	1.47
1951	273	17	6.22	70	3	4.28
1952	282	9	3.19	69	1	1.45
1953	323	7	2.16	72	-	0.0
1954	319	7	2.19	68	-	0.0
1955	313	6	1.91	65	1	1.5
1956	311	2	0.64	62	1	1.6
1957	301	*4	1.32	57	-	-
Average for the 5 years 1935-39	118	21	17.8	62	4	6.5

At the 31st December, 1957 there were 358 cases on the Register.

\* Plus 1 Tubercular patient who died from other causes.

# VENEREAL DISEASES

Sessions are held at the Special Clinic, 36, New Road, Rochester, on Mondays from 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on other days by appointment. This information is made known by means of posters and leaflets, through the Public and Port Health Departments, Doctors, Nurses and other Clinics.

The Clinic is conducted by C.D. Routh, Esq., M.D., and serves a considerable area.

The following information has been kindly supplied by Dr. C.D. Routh.

## NEW PATIENTS, ROCHESTER.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Syphilis ... ..	1	4	5
Chancroid ... ..	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea ... ..	3	7	10
Non-venereal ... ..	19	8	27
Total number of new patients from all districts served	...	...	336
Attendances of Rochester patients	...	...	492
Total attendances of patients from all districts	...	...	3,150

## NEW PATIENTS ATTENDING VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC AND TOTAL ATTENDANCES FROM (a) ROCHESTER (b) ALL DISTRICTS

1935 - 1954

	1935-1939 AVERAGE NO. PER ANNUM	1940-1944 AVERAGE NO. PER ANNUM	1945-1949 AVERAGE NO. PER ANNUM	1950-1954 AVERAGE NO. PER ANNUM
1. New Patients				
(a) ROCHESTER				
Diagnosed Venereal Disease	43	36	25	12
Diagnosed Non-Venereal Disease	27	34	46	39
(b) ALL DISTRICTS				
Venereal and Non-Venereal	Not Available	426	385	290
2. Attendances				
(a) ROCHESTER PATIENTS...	2,641	1,316	1,057	846
(b) All Districts Served	Not Available	8,481	6,021	4,028

## DISCHARGES FROM ALL DISTRICTS COVERED

Discharged cured:-

Syphilis...	20
Gonorrhoea	42
Non-Venereal	202

## DEFAULTED BEFORE FINAL TEST OF CURE

Syphilis	4
Gonorrhoea	3
Non-Venereal	—

## AGED PERSONS

It was not necessary for the Local Authority to take action under the National Assistance Act, 1948/51 in respect of aged persons.

1957 ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION OBSERVATIONS ROCHESTER AND CHATHAM

MONTR	RAINFALL DURING MONTR INCHES	MEAN RAIN- FALL	PREVAILING WIND	MONTRLY DEPOSIT IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE										MILLIGRAMMES SO <sub>3</sub> PER 100 sq. CENTIMETRES LEAD PEROXIDE	PR VALUE
				INSOLUBLE DEPOSIT	SOLUBLE DEPOSIT	WATER INSOLUBLE MATTER				WATER SOLUBLE MATTER					
						TOTAL SOLIDS	SOLUBLE IN CARBON BISULPRIDE	ASR	OTHER COMBUSTIBLE MATTER	CALCIUM	CRLORIDES	SULPRATES			
JANUARY	1.12	1.195	S to W	7.75	9.71	17.46	0.05	5.91	1.80	1.92	1.08	3.51	1.18	7.22	
FEBRUARY	3.05	3.20	S to W	7.98	11.60	19.58	0.06	6.06	1.86	2.39	0.80	4.23	1.08	7.20	
MARCH	1.03	1.04	E to S	11.86	11.50	23.36	0.40	9.19	2.683	2.68	0.61	4.41	0.91	7.47	
APRIL	0.22	0.170	N to E	9.01	6.40	15.40	0.03	6.68	2.30	1.33	0.51	2.29	0.88	7.66	
MAY	1.17	1.275	N to E	8.80	9.11	17.92	0.06	6.29	2.45	2.09	0.65	2.51	0.79	8.00	
JUNE	0.99	1.03	S to W	9.36	8.90	18.25	0.09	6.48	2.78	1.86	0.51	2.57	0.70	8.30	
JULY	2.63	2.82	W to N	8.99	12.33	21.32	0.05	6.71	2.23	2.78	0.86	3.77	0.73	7.70	
AUGUST	2.39	2.305	S to W	7.24	10.60	17.85	0.08	5.49	1.67	2.32	0.80	3.03	0.74	8.00	
SEPTEMBER	2.69	2.615	S to W	6.10	10.14	16.24	0.04	4.43	1.62	1.86	0.83	2.85	0.71	7.56	
OCTOBER	1.18	1.205	S to W	9.99	11.73	21.72	0.04	8.05	1.90	2.78	0.793	4.30	1.04	7.60	
NOVEMBER	2.73	3.02	N to E	7.27	12.33	19.60	0.11	5.67	1.50	2.25	2.12	3.71	1.60	7.26	
DECEMBER	1.98	2.125	S to W	6.63	9.38	16.01	0.08	5.18	1.37	1.86	1.16	3.69	1.46	6.58	
ALL SAINTS' HOSPITAL															
JANUARY	1.27	4.47	S to W	3.94	4.71	8.65	0.09	2.54	1.32	0.73	0.86	1.44	1.37	6.76	
FEBRUARY	3.35	0.52	S to W	5.61	5.04	10.64	0.07	3.81	1.72	1.06	0.66	2.40	1.39	6.45	
MARCH	1.05	0.625	E to S	6.30	4.09	10.39	0.11	4.66	1.53	0.73	0.41	1.64	1.05	6.38	
APRIL	0.12	1.075	N to E	7.46	3.48	10.94	0.16	4.81	2.49	0.73	0.48	1.23	1.03	7.18	
MAY	1.38	0.39	N to E	9.69	5.93	15.63	0.15	5.93	3.62	1.09	0.75	1.77	0.74	7.80	
JUNE	1.07	2.375	S to W	8.86	6.88	15.73	0.18	5.87	2.81	1.59	0.51	2.44	0.55	8.22	
JULY	3.01	3.775	W to N	9.08	9.21	18.29	0.13	6.19	2.76	1.86	0.80	2.81	0.66	7.96	
AUGUST	2.22	2.79	S to W	7.31	7.75	15.07	0.12	5.22	1.98	1.59	0.66	2.35	0.75	7.10	
SEPTEMBER	2.54	1.805	S to W	5.57	6.66	12.23	0.07	3.72	1.78	0.99	0.73	2.00	0.97	7.84	
OCTOBER	1.23	2.79	S to W	7.29	11.53	18.82	0.07	5.75	1.48	2.39	0.83	4.16	1.15	7.66	
NOVEMBER	3.31	3.77	N to E	6.16	9.15	15.30	0.13	4.20	1.82	1.19	1.99	2.57	1.49	6.22	
DECEMBER	2.27	2.125	S to W	4.82	7.09	11.91	0.17	3.07	1.59	0.80	1.52	2.73	1.67	5.66	
FORT PITT SCHOOL															
JANUARY	4.72	4.47	S to W	5.36	7.59	12.95	0.07	3.76	1.52	1.13	1.18	2.43	1.28	7.24	
FEBRUARY	0.51	0.52	S to W	5.22	7.16	12.37	0.11	3.76	1.35	1.33	0.73	3.00	1.33	7.22	
MARCR	0.56	0.625	E to S	5.68	5.43	11.12	0.09	3.94	1.65	0.99	0.51	2.14	1.02	7.55	
APRIL	1.03	1.075	N to E	10.17	6.76	16.93	0.07	7.11	3.00	1.26	0.63	2.40	0.89	7.74	
MAY	0.39	0.39	N to E	9.52	9.25	18.77	0.14	6.69	2.69	1.96	0.78	2.76	0.81	8.02	
JUNE	2.28	2.375	S to W	7.75	5.57	13.32	0.10	5.20	2.45	1.06	0.43	2.02	0.57	7.96	
JULY	4.33	3.775	W to N	7.64	9.94	17.58	0.12	5.46	2.06	1.99	0.66	3.14	0.59	7.80	
AUGUST	2.98	2.79	S to W	6.49	9.25	15.73	0.10	4.88	1.50	1.82	0.66	2.31	0.63	8.18	
SEPTEMBER	1.82	1.805	S to W	6.19	9.28	15.47	0.06	4.24	1.89	1.66	0.89	2.89	0.72	7.68	
OCTOBER	2.98	2.79	S to W	5.96	6.50	12.45	0.10	4.21	1.65	1.39	0.50	2.69	1.28	6.72	
NOVEMBER	4.33	3.77	N to E	9.21	17.10	26.31	0.15	7.07	1.99	3.45	2.52	4.72	1.71	7.54	
DECEMBER	2.27	2.125	S to W	4.98	9.18	14.16	0.11	3.62	1.25	1.39	1.62	3.54	1.65	6.04	



## D. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER

(i) The Water Works for the supply of the Strood area is on the North side of the River Medway. The source of this water supply is from wells in the chalk in Strood to which was added, in 1942 an additional supply from deep chalk wells in Cuxton.

(ii) The Chatham and District Water Works supplies the rest of the City to the South. This supply is from wells in the chalk and greensand.

Both supplies are chlorinated.

As from 1st April, 1956, both these waterworks were taken over by the newly formed Medway Water Board.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

	STROOD WATER SUPPLY	CHATHAM & DISTRICT SUPPLY	TOTAL
Raw Water ... ..	9	—	9
Treated Water ... ..	17	24	41
Total ... ..	26	24	50

In addition there were 2 chemical analyses of the Strood raw water supply.

104 samples of the Chatham & District water supply were submitted for bacteriological examination, by the Medway Water Board, and the results forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

The following is a copy of a Report on a chemical analysis of untreated water taken from the Strood Supply on the 3rd June, 1957.

	PARTS PER MILLION
pH ... ..	7.3
Electric Conductivity ... ..	740
Chlorine present as Chloride ... ..	82
Hardness — Carbonate 255)	335
— Non-Carbonate 80) Total ... ..	
Nitrate Nitrogen ... ..	10
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... ..	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... ..	0.000
Metals ... ..	Absent
Turbidity ... ..	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide ... ..	45
Total Solids ... ..	495
Alkalinity as Calcium carbonate ... ..	255
Nitrite Nitrogen ... ..	less 0.01 (less than)
Oxygen Absorbed ... ..	0.00

### SWIMMING POOL

During the bathing season the water in the swimming pool is frequently submitted for bacteriological examination. The pool is owned by the local Authority and the water is chlorinated and filtered continuously. During 1957, 14 samples were taken.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During 1957, 9 existing houses were connected to the sewer and 6 cesspools abolished.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse collection and disposal is under the control of the City Surveyor. Refuse is collected once a week and, at the present time, is dealt with by controlled tipping on Temple Marsh. Salvage (paper) is collected once weekly.

## E. CAUSES OF DEATHS IN ROCHESTER

	M.	F.
All Causes ... ..	238	219
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	4	-
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease... ..	1	1
4. Diphtheria ... ..	-	-
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-
6. Meningococcal infection... ..	-	-
7. Ac. Poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-
8. Measles ... ..	-	1
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases... ..	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	18	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	9	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	-	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	-	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	19	14
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	1
16. Diabetes... ..	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	39	28
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	41	24
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	5	7
20. Other heart diseases ... ..	28	46
21. Other circulatory diseases ... ..	8	14
22. Influenza ... ..	4	3
23. Pneumonia ... ..	14	6
24. Bronchitis ... ..	12	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	1	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	7*
28. Nephritis and nephrosis... ..	-	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate... ..	5	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	-	-
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	3	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases... ..	14	27
33. Motor vehicle accidents... ..	3	1
34. All other accidents ... ..	4	9
35. Suicide ... ..	3	2
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	-	-

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:

Total ... ..	14
Legitimate ... ..	14
Illegitimate ... ..	-

## Live Births:

Total ... ..	814
Legitimate ... ..	782
Illegitimate ... ..	32

## Stillbirths:

Total ... ..	15
Legitimate ... ..	14
Illegitimate ... ..	1

Population ... .. 46,840

\* N.B. No notifications of death from Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea were received from the local Registrar.

# F. CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1957

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.

Your Worship, Madam and Gentlemen:

I beg to submit my nineteenth annual report on the sanitary inspection of the City.

## COMPLAINTS

833 complaints were received in the Department during the year as compared with 993 in 1956.

## DEMOLITION ORDERS

The following 2 houses were subjected to Demolition Orders under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, during the year:-

1 and 3, Alma Place, Strood.

## CLOSING ORDERS

Closing Orders under Section 17, Housing Act, 1957 or under Section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 respecting the following 10 houses were made during the year:-

2, King Street, Rochester.  
6, New Covenant Place, Rochester.  
16, 18, 26, 28 and 34, Alma Place, Strood.  
4, Church Path, Strood.  
30, Edward Street, Strood.  
14, Vicarage Road, Strood.

Closing Orders under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936, were also made respecting:-

326, High Street, Rochester.  
5, South Avenue, Rochester (One Basement room)  
6, South Avenue, Rochester ( „ „ „ )  
49, North Street, Strood.

## DEMOLITION

62 houses were demolished during 1957:-

Houses in Clearance Areas:-

25, 27, 35, 39, 41, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57 and 61, John Street, Rochester.  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Hoopers Square, Rochester.  
23, Cazenueve Street, Rochester.  
13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, Almon Place, Rochester.  
1 and 2, Newark Street, Strood.  
22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 36, Charles Street, Strood.  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, Victoria Street, Strood.

Total - 53 houses

## Houses under Individual Demolition or Closing Orders:-

- 2 and 4a, Barton Road, Strood.  
 1 and 2, Factory Cottages, Wickham, Strood.  
 3, Cazeneuve Street, Rochester.  
 43, John Street, Rochester.

Total - 6 houses

## Houses Voluntarily Demolished:-

113, 115 and 117, High Street, Strood.

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Repairs and improvements to the total of 944 were affected under the Inspectors' direction and supervision throughout the year. The details of the various repairs, etc., carried out are given in the following list:-

Premises (existing) connected to foul water sewer ... ..	10
Drainage entirely reconstructed ... ..	9
Drainage partly reconstructed or transferred from storm water to foul water sewer ... ..	1
Defective drains repaired ... ..	2
Defective inspection chambers and covers ... ..	4
Drains unstopped and cleansed ... ..	235
New ventilated soil pipes fixed ... ..	2
New ventshafts fixed ... ..	5
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ... ..	1
W.C.'s provided with pans and traps ... ..	10
Artificial lighting provided in W.C.'s ... ..	1
Urinals constructed and improved ... ..	2
Sanitary accommodation provided with ventilated approach ... ..	1
Flushing apparatus and water supply provided to W.C.'s ... ..	6
W.C. fittings repaired and cleansed ... ..	27
New sinks fixed ... ..	9
New lavatory basins and baths fixed ... ..	3
Trapped wastepipes fixed ... ..	8
Cesspools abolished ... ..	8
Water tests applied ... ..	53
Smoke tests applied ... ..	25

## MISCELLANEOUS

No. of houses demolished:	
(Clearance Areas - 53; Housing Act, 1936 (Sec. 11) - 6; Voluntarily demolished - 3) ... ..	62
No. of houses closed (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Section 10) ... ..	8
Parts of buildings closed (Housing Act, 1936, Section 12) (undertaking) ... ..	4
No. of Closing Orders determined ... ..	0
Dangerous walls reconstructed and underpinned ... ..	1
Roofs repaired ... ..	21
Defective brickwork and pointing of brickwork repaired ... ..	17
Guttering or downpipes provided or repaired ... ..	23
Damp walls remedied ... ..	49
Yard paving repaved or repaired (repaved - 2) (repaired - 9) ... ..	11
Concrete floors provided to cellars ... ..	1
Defective floors repaired ... ..	7
Defective wall and ceiling plaster repaired ... ..	64
Dirty walls cleansed ... ..	25
Dirty ceilings cleansed ... ..	22
Food premises provided with constant hot water supply ... ..	4



Food premises cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective stoves repaired or renewed...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective doors and door frames...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Lighting of rooms improved...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ventilation of rooms improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective windows repaired (woodwork, glazing and sashcords)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ventilated food stores provided or improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Washing coppers provided or repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary dustbins provided...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Instances of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Verminous rooms disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Dirty houses cleansed (tenant's neglect)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances from animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisances from manure and refuse abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wasps nests destroyed...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Total									<u>944</u>

In addition to the repairs etc., recorded in the foregoing list, improvements and items of repair were affected during the year in houses respecting which applications had been received from property owners for Improvement Grants and for Housing Advances from borrowers in connection with the purchase of houses.

The inspections of the properties concerned were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors in the Health Department in conjunction with the Building Inspector in the City Surveyor's Department.

The number of houses inspected during 1957 for such purposes was:-

Improvement Grants	-	21
Housing Advances	-	63

#### NOTICES SERVED

Informal notices issued (written and verbal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	449
Informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	367
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Statutory notices complied with:-									
(a) by owners or occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
(b) by Local Authority in default of owner or occupier	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

(Includes notices served in 1956 and complied with in 1957).

#### CESSPOOL EMPTYING

1,415 loads were pumped from cesspools in the City as against 1,618 in 1956. Of the total number of loads pumped, 1,356 loads were taken from foul water cesspools.

#### VERMINOUS DWELLINGS

93 rooms in 32 houses (Corporation Houses 11; Privately Owned Houses 21) were subjected to disinfestation treatment for the destruction of vermin. In all cases the premises were treated by thorough spraying with an insecticide incorporating D.D.T.

#### FOOD INSPECTION

1,316 visits were paid by the Inspectors to the various premises associated with the production and sale of food.

Of this number 558 were visits to the two licensed slaughterhouses in the City for the inspection of carcasses, etc. at the time of slaughter.

The number of carcasses and the associated organs and offals examined during the year was 10,162 as compared with 10,170 in 1956.

The following tabulated statement shows the numbers and types of carcasses inspected and the number found upon inspection to be diseased or unsound.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed... ..	644	365	188	3549	5416	-
Number inspected ... ..	644	365	188	3549	5416	-
<i>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	-	-	1	15	20	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	132	140	2	154	718	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	20.49	38.35	1.59	4.76	13.62	-
<i>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	3	2	-	-	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	55	105	1	-	194	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis... ..	9.00	29.31	0.53	-	3.60	-
<i>CYSTICERCOSIS</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	5	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	5	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned...	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected in the Rochester Slaughterhouses together with the percentages of the carcasses found to be affected with Tuberculosis and other diseases or conditions, during the two years prior to 1939 as compared with the figures for 1956/57.

	No. of Carcasses inspected				Percentage of the Carcasses inspected found to be affected with disease							
					Tuberculosis				Diseases other than Tuberculosis			
	Year 1937	Year 1938	Year 1956	Year 1957	Year 1937	Year 1938	Year 1956	Year 1957	Year 1937	Year 1938	Year 1956	Year 1957
Cows ... ..	6	9	379	365	55.5	11.1	22.42	29.31	0	11.1	25.06	38.35
Cattle excluding Cows ... ..	217	365	797	644	8.3	8.8	10.53	9.00	7.8	9.0	11.54	20.49
Calves ... ..	88	101	414	188	0	0	0.48	0.53	4.5	1.98	0.72	1.59
Sheep and Lambs	8332	12984	3240	3549	0	0	0	0	2.8	2.88	7.03	4.76
Pigs ... ..	1367	2165	5340	5416	5.26	5.95	2.62	3.60	3.51	2.67	5.69	13.62

The total amount of all foods found to be diseased or unsound during the year weighed 13 tons, 19 cwts., 1 qtr., 12 lbs. This amount was made up as follows and the details of the unfit food surrendered are shown below.

Diseased or Unsound Meat	...	...	...	...	...	10 tons, 12 cwts., 3 qtrs. 23 lbs.
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	...	3 tons, 6 cwts., 1 qtr. 17 lbs.

## FOOD CONDEMNED

2 carcasses and offals of cows	...	Generalised Tuberculosis.
1 carcase and offal of a steer	...	" "
2 carcasses and offals of heifers	...	" "
1 carcase and offal of a calf	...	Septicaemia.
15 carcasses and offals of sheep	...	(13 Emaciation and Dropsy, 1 Septicaemia, 1 Fevered and ill-bled).
21 carcasses and offals of pigs	...	(9 Fevered and ill-bled, 1 Generalised Tuberculosis, 1 Septicaemia, 6 Swine Fever, 1 Emaciation, 3 Toxaemia).
5 forequarters of cows	...	Tuberculosis.
2 hindquarters of cows	...	"
1 hindquarter of a heifer	...	"
271 bovine livers	...	(139 Cirrhosis, 39 Multiple Abscesses, 47 Cavernous Angioma, 6 Flukes, 40 Tuberculosis).
67 bovine heads and tongues	...	(58 Tuberculosis, 3 Actinomycosis, 2 Cysticercus Bovis, 4 Abscesses).
109 bovine lungs	...	(87 Tuberculosis, 14 Congestion, 5 Parasitic, 3 Abscesses).
1 bovine tongue	...	Actinomycosis.
10 bovine hearts	...	(7 Pericarditis, 3 Cysticercus Bovis).
18 bovine kidneys	...	(10 Cystic, 4 Nephritis, 4 Tuberculosis).
165 bovine stomachs, intestines, etc.	...	(85 Tuberculosis, 38 Johnes Disease, 42 Inflammation).
1 calf pluck	...	Tuberculosis.
12 sheep plucks	...	(3 Parasitic, 4 Abscesses, 5 Cirrhosis).
133 sheep livers	...	(74 Parasitic, 58 Cirrhosis, 1 Abscesses).
188 pigs' heads and tongues	...	Tuberculosis.
110 pigs' plucks	...	(1 Tuberculosis, 107 Congestion, 2 Parasitic).
430 pigs' livers	...	(404 Cirrhosis, 24 Parasitic, 2 Tuberculosis).
49 pigs' lungs	...	Congestion.
7 pigs' hearts	...	Pericarditis.
2 pigs' kidneys	...	Nephritis.
135 pigs' stomachs, intestines, etc.	...	(7 Tuberculosis, 4 Inflammation, 124 Swine Fever Contacts).
5 lbs. pigs' skin and fat	...	Urticaria.
711 lbs. beef	...	Unsound.
56 lbs. mutton	...	"
234 lbs. pork	...	"
47 lbs. cheese trimmings	...	"
58 lbs. cake	...	"
16 lbs. bacon	...	"
34 lbs. chicken	...	"
703 lbs. corned beef	...	"
28 oz. ice-cream	...	"
19 tins cream	...	"
449 tins meat (various)	...	"
116 tins fish	...	"
448 lbs. fish (wet)	...	"
15 jars fish paste	...	"
200 lbs. oatmeal	...	"
1052 tins fruit	...	"
48 lbs. kidneys	...	"
166 lbs. ham (tinned)	...	"
30 lbs. suet	...	"



28 lbs. jam	...	...	...	...	...	Unsound
471 lbs. luncheon meat	...	...	...	...	...	"
15 lbs. crab	...	...	...	...	...	"
318 tins milk	...	...	...	...	...	"
28 jars pickles	...	...	...	...	...	"
4 jars preserves	...	...	...	...	...	"
34 jars honey	...	...	...	...	...	"
17 jars mincemeat	...	...	...	...	...	"
37 jars salad cream	...	...	...	...	...	"
84 jars sandwich spread	...	...	...	...	...	"
76 tins soup	...	...	...	...	...	"
42 lbs. veal (tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	"
781 tins vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	"
8 turkeys	...	...	...	...	...	"
12 christmas puddings	...	...	...	...	...	"
3 tins creamed rice	...	...	...	...	...	"
14 tins custard powder	...	...	...	...	...	"
84 packets curry powder	...	...	...	...	...	"
24 tins baking powder	...	...	...	...	...	"
12 packets pudding mixture	...	...	...	...	...	"
17 packets cereals	...	...	...	...	...	"

## DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

All the condemned food was disposed of in the following manner:-

Meat, offals etc. ... Stained with green dye and released to a reputable firm for treatment and manufacture into fertilisers etc.  
 All other foodstuffs.... Collected and disposed of by burying which is carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Department staff.

## FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food Premises in the area, by type of business, at the end of the year.

TYPE OF BUSINESS	NUMBER
Bakers and Confectioners	14
Butchers	37
Cafes and Tea Bars	24
Canteens	28
Dairies	3
Fishmongers (wet and dried) only)	8
Fried Fish Shops	13
General Shops	74
Greengrocers	40
Grocers	66
Hotels	5
Licensed Premises and Clubs	111
Mobile Shops	13
Mobile Refreshment Stalls	4
Sugar Confectioners	42

Number of Food Premises under Section 146, Rochester Corporation Act, 1936:-

Manufacture of sausages and/or preserved food...	...	...	...	...	24
Manufacture of ice-cream	...	...	...	...	1
Sale and storage of ice-cream	...	...	...	...	174

## MILK

Periodic visits to the total of 126 were paid to dairies, other than those at dairy farms, and to shops selling sterilised milk for the purpose of taking milk

samples and routine inspections of the premises.

The number of retail dairies and the number of retail distributors in the City Area, together with the number of licences issued by the Rochester City Council under the Special Designation Regulations are as follows:-

Number of dairies (excluding dairy farms)	3
„ „ registered distributors (excluding distributors of sterilised milk only) with premises in the City Area	3
„ „ registered distributors (excluding distributors of sterilised milk only) with premises outside the City Area	6
„ „ registered distributors of Sterilised Milk only (General Shops, etc.)	86

Licences issued:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk	- Dealers' Licences	8
	Dealers' Supplementary Licences	4
Pasteurised Milk	- Dealers' (Pasteurisers') Licences	3
	Dealers' Licences	8
	Dealers' Supplementary Licences	4
Sterilised Milk	- Dealers' Licences	94
	Dealers' Supplementary Licences	1

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

#### Milk

12 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk (Farm Bottled) were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

All samples proved, upon examination, to satisfy the prescribed tests under the Milk (Special Designations)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

144 samples of Pasteurised Milk from the 3 pasteurising plants in the City Area, and from supplies treated outside the area, together with 22 samples of Sterilised Milk, were sent to the Public Health Laboratory during the year for subjection to the Phosphatase and/or Methylene Blue Tests and the Turbidity Test in relation to Sterilised Milk. The results are given below:-

<i>Phosphatase Test</i>	<i>Methylene Blue Test</i>	<i>Turbidity Test</i>
136 samples passed	140 samples passed	22 samples passed
8 samples failed	4 samples failed	0 samples failed

#### WATER

52 samples of drinking water (mains supplies) and 14 of swimming bath water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis during the year. Fuller details in connection with the water supplies will be found in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

#### ICE-CREAM

During the year 6 vendors were registered under the Rochester Corporation Act, 1936 for the storage and sale of ice-cream in the City area. The total number of premises and/or vendors registered is 174.

All supplies of ice-cream sold in the City are, with one exception, manufactured in other areas.

At the small manufactory in Rochester the business is carried on in a very satisfactory manner and samples taken, both for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis, have proved to be up to standard.

73 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and the results of the same are as follows:-

Grade I	51 samples
Grade II	16 samples
Grade III	3 samples
Grade IV	3 samples

In addition 12 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis and the details relating to these are given on Page 21.

# FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING 1957

184 samples of milk and other foods were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis during the year.

The details relating to the kinds of food sampled, the results of the analyses made and the action taken with regard to the samples reported by the Analyst as being either "inferior" or "adulterated" are shown in the following tables:

ARTICLE	NO.	GENUINE	ADULTERATED OR DETERIORATED
Aspirin . . . . .	1	1	—
Baking Powder . . . . .	1	1	—
Butter . . . . .	5	5	—
Christmas Pudding . . . . .	1	1	—
Coffee . . . . .	1	1	—
Coffee Essence . . . . .	1	1	—
"Cool Drink" . . . . .	1	—	1
Crab . . . . .	1	1	—
Cream . . . . .	2	2	—
Fish Cakes . . . . .	1	1	—
Fish Paste . . . . .	2	2	—
Fish (Wet) . . . . .	1	1	—
Golden Syrup . . . . .	1	1	—
Herb Tablets . . . . .	1	1	—
Honey . . . . .	1	1	—
Horseradish Sauce . . . . .	1	1	—
Ice-Cream . . . . .	12	12	—
Iodine . . . . .	1	1	—
Jam . . . . .	2	2	—
Jelly . . . . .	1	1	—
Luncheon Meat . . . . .	1	1	—
Margarine . . . . .	2	2	—
Marmalade . . . . .	2	2	—
Meat Paste . . . . .	2	2	—
Milk (Liquid) . . . . .	103	103	—
Milk (Dried) . . . . .	2	2	—
Mincemeat . . . . .	2	2	—
Non-Alcoholic Muscatel Flavour . . . . .	1	1	—
Oatmeal . . . . .	2	2	—
Orange Drink . . . . .	3	3	—
Olive Oil . . . . .	1	1	—
Pepper . . . . .	3	3	—
Pork Sausage . . . . .	9	9	—
Potato Crisps . . . . .	2	2	—
Sago . . . . .	1	1	—
Salad Cream . . . . .	2	2	—
Sauce . . . . .	1	1	—
Soup . . . . .	2	2	—
Soup Powder . . . . .	2	2	—
Suet . . . . .	2	2	—
Vinegar . . . . .	1	1	—
Totals . . . . .	184	183	1

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
82	"Cool Drink"	The constituents of the sample conformed with the amounts laid down in the Soft Drinks Order for undiluted drinks.	Making of the "Cool Drink" at the shop premises immediately discontinued upon representation from Chief

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
82 (Cont'd.)	"Cool Drink"	Bottle not labelled in accordance with the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.	Public Health Inspector. Matter reported to the Health Committee who accepted the letter of explanation from the shop keeper concerned with regard to his infringement of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953.

In addition to the routine sampling of food and drink for chemical analysis, the following foods, in connection with which complaints had been made to the Health Department by members of the public were submitted to the Public Analyst for his observations and report:-

Article	Analyst's Report and Action Taken
(1) Biscuit containing piece of wire	Not definitely established that the extraneous matter was in the biscuit at the time of baking. Letter of warning to the Retailers.
(2) Extraneous matter in fruit pie.	Examination proved to be a small piece of thick paper. Representation made to the Manufacturers.
(3) Quaker Oats affected with mite.	Sample found infested with flour mite. Representation made to Wholesalers and Manufacturers of the Product.
(4) Bread containing piece of metal.	Examination showed rust mark in the slice of bread which indicated that the piece of metal was in the bread at the time of sale. Letter of warning to the Bakery concerned.
(5) Extraneous matter in jar of minced chicken.	Examination proved the extraneous matter to be a small portion of metal tag. Representation made to the Manufacturers.
(6) Extraneous matter in white bread.	Examination proved the extraneous matter to be a brown mass of brown bread and yeast cells and quite harmless. Analyst's findings reported to Bakery concerned.
(7) Extraneous matter in brown bread.	Examination proved the extraneous matter to be pieces of burnt flour on the bottom of the loaf and not injurious to health. Representation made to the Bakery concerned.
(8) Fruit pies containing mould.	Not submitted to Public Analyst. Letters of warning sent to Manufacturers.

#### ICE-CREAM

The results of the analyses of 12 samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year are as follows:-

FAT.

6-7%	7-8%	8-9%	9-10%	10-11%	11-12%	12-13%	13% and over
2	0	2	2	4	1	0	1

Total: 12 samples

The sugar content and the non-fatty milk solids were satisfactory in every case. All samples examined complied with the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order, 1953.

#### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

No proceedings were instituted during the year.



## FACTORIES AND WORK-PLACES

258 visits were paid by the Public Health Inspectors to the factories and work-places in the City during the year. The number of defects found at the premises visited was 28.

I desire to record my appreciation for the help and co-operation given at all times by H.M. Factory Inspector and Staff who are responsible for the welfare of the workers at factories where mechanical power is used.

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

#### 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH (INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	27	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	195	223	10	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	8	8	-	-
Total	254	258	10	-

#### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were Found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1)	1	6	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	1	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	1	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	23	17	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	28	25	-	-	-

### 3. OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prose- cutions
Wearing (Making etc. Apparel (Cleansing & Washing	65	-	-	-	-	-
Household Linen	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	66	-	-	-	-	-

## DISINFECTION

39 rooms were disinfected after infectious disease, etc. This number includes 8 rooms disinfected after removal or death of Tuberculosis cases.

16 loads of bedding were removed from premises for the purpose of steam disinfection or destruction.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no manufacturers of rag flock in the City.

The number of firms of upholsterers in the area affected by the Act is 2 and these have been duly registered by the Council.

# PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of Licences granted during the year to keep a Pet Shop	...	...	1
---	-----	-----	---

## RODENT CONTROL

Total number of premises, lands, etc. inspected during the year (Inspectorial and Rodent Staffs)	685
Total number of infestations found and treated	268
Sewers - Total number of manholes baited (test baiting and poison baiting)	381
Sewers - Number of manholes showing rat infestation	6
RATS: Number of rats destroyed (Actual bodies recovered)	534
MICE: Number of mice destroyed (Actual bodies recovered)	196

In addition to the rodent control operations carried out following complaints and routine inspections of premises etc., two maintenance treatments of the sewers were carried out during the year. The number of sewer manholes baited together with the number of manholes showing evidence of rat infestation is included in the figures given above.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Primary Inspections (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	368
House-to-house inspections (including houses in Clearance Areas)	158
Re-inspections	1,653
Drainage Surveys and visits to work in progress	398
Caravans inspected	38
Visits to Factories	258
Outworkers	66
Bakehouses	23
Slaughterhouses	558

Visits to Ice-Cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
" " Food preparing premises (Canteens etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
" " Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
" " Fried Fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
" " Other food premises (shops, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
" " Cases of infectious disease and/or food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
" " for food sampling and testing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	502
" " water sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Overcrowding investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Market stalls inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	279
Shops Act inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Atmospheric Pollution (visits re dust deposits and to gauge sites, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	266
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits in connection with the presence or otherwise of vermin in houses and furniture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	233
Visits in connection with the Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
" " " " Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
" " " " Certificates of Disrepair etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
" " " " Housing Loans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
" " " " Improvement grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
" " " " Rodent control (primary and treatment etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,377
" " " " Tidal flooding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Miscellaneous visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	932
Total								8,189

In conclusion I beg to gratefully acknowledge the continuous support and guidance from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and from Dr. Murray.

To the members of the Staff in the Department I desire to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for their loyal assistance at all times.

I also gratefully acknowledge the assistance and co-operation afforded me by my fellow officers in all the Departments during the year.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E.W. BARTON,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*



## G. PORT OF ROCHESTER

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1957.

#### I. Staff.

TABLE A.

No change.

#### II. Amount of Shipping entering the District during the year.

TABLE B.

SHIPS FROM	NUMBER	TONNAGE	NUMBER INSPECTED		NUMBER OF SHIPS REPORTED AS HAVING, OR HAVING HAD DURING THE VOYAGE, INFECTIOUS DISEASE ON BOARD
			BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	BY THE PORT HEALTH INSPECTOR	
Foreign Ports	412	276,042	9	360	Nil
Coastwise	609	294,622	2	556	Nil
Total	1,021	570,664	11	916	Nil

#### III. Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

TABLE C.

##### (a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC

Number of Passengers INWARDS ) Only passenger traffic in Port is day trips.  
 Number of Passengers OUTWARDS) during Summer to adjacent seaside resorts.

##### (b) CARGO TRAFFIC.

Principal IMPORTS. Wood pulp, timber, china clay, coal, crude oil, flour, wheat, fertilisers, animal feeding stuffs.

Principal EXPORTS. Cement, plasterboard, bitumen, creosote, diesel and gas oil.

##### (c) PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE.

Holmsund, Valvi, Kasko, Kotka, Kragero, Arendal, Oslo, Faeker, Hammelvik, Many-luoto, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Sumdsvald, Quebec, Clark City, Las Pedros, Indian Bay.

#### IV. Inland Barge Traffic.

Not applicable to this Port.

#### V. Water Supply.

1. No change.

##### 2. REPORTS OF TESTS FOR CONTAMINATION

24 samples of the Chatham and District Water Supply, and 26 samples of the Strood Water Supply were taken for bacteriological examination. The results proved them to be good waters.

##### 3. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CONTAMINATION OF HYDRANTS AND HOSEPIPES.

No change.

4. NUMBER AND SANITARY CONDITION OF WATER BOATS, AND POWERS OF CONTROL BY THE  
AUTHORITY.

No change.

VI. Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1952

1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.

No change.

2. RADIO MESSAGES.

No change.

3. NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO

No change.

4. MOORING STATIONS.

No change.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR:-

- (a) Hospital accommodation )
- (b) Surveillance ) No change.
- (c) Cleansing and disinfection)

VII. Smallpox.

1. Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent:-  
Long Reach Hospital, Dartford. Tel. Dartford 3231.

2. Transport of smallpox cases to hospital.  
This is provided by the London County Council Ambulance Service. Tel. Waterloo 3311.  
Application is made by telephone and written confirmation sent to the County Medical Officer, County Hall, London.

3. Consultants Available.  
Dr J P. Marsden ) River Hospitals, Joyce Green, Dartford.  
Dr. W.J. Coughlan) Tel. Dartford 3231.

4. Laboratory Diagnosis Facilities  
Specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Colindale Avenue, Colindale, London, N.W 9.

VIII Venereal Disease.

No change.

IX. Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

TABLE D.

CATEGORY	DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES DURING THE YEAR PASSENGERS CREW	NUMBER OF SHIPS CONCERNED
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	-	- -	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	- -	-
Cases landed from other ships	-	- -	-

**X. Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.**

The bulk of the shipping is from Scandinavian and North American Ports and malaria is not generally met with in the Port of Rochester; there have been no cases during the year.

**XI. Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.**

No infected or suspected vessels have arrived during the year.

**XII. Measures taken against rodents in ships from foreign Ports.**

**(1) PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR RATS.**

As a routine Deratization or Deratization Exemption Certificates are examined. Further course of action is determined as a result of such inspection. When inspecting crews' quarters etc., a general enquiry is usually enough to discover the presence of rats on board, some seamen complain very readily if they know of rats on board the ship.

Cargo workers are a good source of information. The trade in which the vessel has been engaged since her last Deratization, or Deratization Exemption Certificate was issued is an important factor in determining what further inspection should be carried out. Cargoes of wood pulp and pulp wood have little attraction for rats and vessels engaged constantly in this trade are not often infested; if rats are found they are generally confined to a peak or store room and are not distributed throughout the ship.

On the other hand, a ship that has been employed for some time in carrying grain, or has carried out a long trip with such a cargo, merits further investigation particularly if her rat certificate is some months old. Such cargoes at present, do not arrive in this Port but occasionally large vessels, which have carried such cargoes, arrive empty to load cement.

**(2) BACTERIOLOGICAL OR PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RODENTS.**

There is no rodent operator permanently on Port work but, in all cases where it is deemed necessary, the shore rodent operator is employed in order to obtain specimens of rats for bacteriological examination.

**(3) DERATIZATION OF SHIPS.**

For the issue of International Deratization Certificates, an arrangement exists under Article 4 of the Regulations whereby the local Port Health Inspector carries out the inspection and forwards the report to the London Port Health Authority for issue of the Certificate. If it should be necessary to derat a ship by fumigation, the firm employed would be that approved by the London Authority. In other cases of deratting, poisons, traps, sulphur and varnish boards are the methods in use. Deratting Exemption Certificates are issued by the Port of Rochester.

When inspecting a vessel for the issue of an International Sanitary Convention Certificate the inspection is carried out as required by the regulations governing the issue of such a Certificate. The whole vessel from peaks, holds, and engine room to chart and wireless rooms is inspected and report is made on harbourage specifying the particular harbourage found in each compartment.

**(4) RAT-PROOFING OF SHIPS.**

There are no vessels, other than naval vessels, built in this Port and measures concerning rat-proofing are confined to dealing with existing rat-proofing which has suffered damage on board vessels in service, and inspecting rat-proofing on the smaller vessels undergoing repair and refit in local repair yards.

A proportion of the rats caught (if any) in the vicinity of the river is sent, as a routine, for bacteriological examination.

During the year no rats were caught.

TABLE E

## RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

CATEGORY	NUMBER
Black rats . . . . .)	
Brown rats . . . . .)	
Species not known . . . . .)	Nil
Sent for examination . . . . .)	
Infected with Plague . . . . .)	

TABLE F

## DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

NO. OF DERATTING CERTIFICATES ISSUED					NO. OF DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED	TOTAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED
AFTER FUMIGATION WITH		AFTER TRAPPING	AFTER POISONING	TOTAL		
HCN	OTHER FUMIGANT (STATE METHOD)					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	43	43

In addition 4 Rodent Control Certificates were issued.

## XIII. Inspection of ships for Nuisances.

TABLE G

## INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES

NATURE AND NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS		NOTICES SERVED		RESULT OF NOTICES
		STATUTORY NOTICES	OTHER NOTICES	
British Vessels	526	—	19	18 complied
Foreign Vessels	390	—	39	38 complied
River Craft	200	—	11	11 complied

## XIV. Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

No change.

## XV. Medical Inspection of Aliens.

No change.

## XVI. Miscellaneous.

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL ON SHORE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED ON BOARD SHIP FROM AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE

No change.

## RIVER SAMPLES.

15 samples of river water were submitted for bacteriological examination which showed evidence of recent faecal contamination but no pathogenic organisms were cultivated



#### CASES OF SICKNESS.

2 Septic wound	1 Swollen gland in armpit
2 Boils	1 Lumbago
1 Pains in legs	1 Stomach ulcer
1 Broken leg	2 Asian Flu
1 Dental treatment	1 Feverish Cold
3 Influenza colds	

#### FOOD INSPECTION.

Cargoes of wheat, potatoes, flour, tinned milk, lemons, maize flour and onions, totalling 138 were examined.

207 bags of maize flour were damaged during the voyage and were passed for the manufacture of adhesive paste.

#### MOSQUITOES.

Anti-mosquito measures have continued to be carried out on the local marshes under the direction of the Port Health Inspector. Numerous pools and collections of water have been treated where necessary and practicable. The spraying with D.D.T. has reduced the mosquito nuisance to negligible proportions.

#### PARROTS (PROHIBITION OF IMPORT) REGULATION, 1930.

A visit was made to a ship which had a budgerigar aboard and an undertaking was obtained from the owner that the bird would not be taken ashore.

